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Docket No.: KCC-14,083

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Barbara O. SAUER
Serial No.: 09/745,006
Filing Date: 20 December 2000
Title: POCKET DESIGN FOR
ABSORBENT ARTICLE
Customer No.: 35844

Group No.: 3761

Examiner:
K. Reichle

APPEAL BRIEF

Mail Stop APPEAL BRIEF-PATENTS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this Appeal Brief in the above-identified case under

37 CFR § 41.37, pursuant to the Notice of Appeal filed 05 April 2005.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

03 June 2005

03 June 2005
Date


Signature

KCC-2016

MDS/I

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc., the assignee of the present application (as recorded at reel 011794, frame 0471).

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Applicant is not aware of any related appeals or interferences with regard to the present application.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1 and 8 have been canceled. Claims 2-7 and 9-18 are pending in the application. The present Appeal is directed to Claims 2-7 and 9-18, as presented in Appendix A, which were finally rejected in the Office Action mailed 05 January 2005.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

An amendment was filed subsequent to the final rejection. The Amendment was entered by the Examiner to overcome an objection to Claim 9.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The claimed invention relates to a flap or pocket sheet attached to a fluid permeable body-side liner of an absorbent article. The flap or pocket sheet provides a pocket for the collection of fecal matter (Spec. Page 3, lines 1-3). The pocket formed by the flap or pocket sheet reduces or eliminates leaks, particularly of feces at the back waist opening of the absorbent article (Spec. Page 3, lines 1-3). The

pleated flap or pocket sheet of the claimed invention allows for a wider opening pocket, as compared to conventional pocket designs, which bridges the gap between the wearer's body and the back portion of the absorbent article during use (Spec. Page 11, lines 12-21). As shown in the preferred embodiment of FIG. 1, the claimed flap sheet 24 is directly attached to the body-side liner 15 at peripheral edges and a back edge of the flap sheet 24.

Independent Claim 3 recites an absorbent article including a separate flap sheet. Peripheral edges of the flap sheet are "attached directly to [a] fluid permeable body-side liner." The flap sheet includes two opposed pleats that are parallel to a longitudinal centerline of the absorbent article. The flap sheet expands away from the absorbent article (as shown in FIGS. 2 and 3), whereby "the pleats define a pocket between the flap sheet and the body-side liner for the collection of fecal matter."

Independent Claim 9 recites an absorbent article including a separate flap sheet. Peripheral edges of the flap sheet are "attached directly to [a] fluid permeable body-side liner." The flap sheet includes two opposed discrete pleats and is expandable, whereby the pocket is "defined between the discrete pleats and formed ... between the flap sheet and the body-side liner ..."

Independent Claim 15 recites a method of producing a disposable absorbent article. A rectangular multi-layer material is formed including a fluid

impermeable backsheet, a fluid permeable body-side liner attached to the backsheet and a flap sheet attached directly to the body-side liner (opposite the backsheet). A portion of the material is removed from opposed longitudinal edges of the rectangular material to produce two enlarged end portions and a narrowed intermediate portion (such as shown in FIG. 1). Two discrete longitudinal pleats are formed along opposite sides of the flap sheet. The longitudinal pleats define peripheral sides of a pocket between the flap sheet and the body-side liner.

Independent Claim 18 recites an absorbent article including a separate pocket sheet. Peripheral edges of the pocket sheet are “attached directly to [a] fluid permeable body-side liner.” The pocket sheet includes two opposed pleats along opposite sides of the pocket sheet and disposed parallel to a longitudinal centerline of an elongated material of the absorbent article. The pocket sheet is expandable and the pleats “define peripheral sides, respectively, of a pocket between the pocket sheet and the body-side liner for the collection of fecal matter.”

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

The grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal are:

1. Claims 2-7, 9-14, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by WO 97/39710;

2. Claims 2-7, 9-14, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schaar, U.S. Patent 3,951,150, in view of WO 97/48359; Igaue et al., U.S. Patent 5,114,420; and Foreman, U.S. Patent 4,738,677; and

3. Claims 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 97/39710 in view of Igaue et al., U.S. Patent 5,114,420.

VII. ARGUMENT

A. Claims 2-7, 9-14, and 18 are not anticipated by WO 97/39710

In the final Office Action mailed 05 January 2005, the Examiner rejected Claims 2-7, 9-14, and 18 as being anticipated by WO 97/39710 (hereinafter “WO ‘710”). The Examiner’s rejection on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action is reproduced below.

See Figures 10-15, the paragraph bridging pages 2-3, page 8, lines 7-10, page 8, lines 12-22, page 23, lines 30-34, page 24, line 10-page 25, line 26, page 29, line 29-page 30, line 35, page 31, line 24-page 32, line 3, page 35, first paragraph, page 38, lines 8-17 and page 42, first paragraph. It is noted that the claims do not require a monolithically formed flap sheet, i.e. the elongated material is 50, 52, the backsheet is 50, the topsheet is the envelope web as disclosed at page 35, first full paragraph, the absorbent layer is 52, the flap sheet or pocket sheet is 102, the pleats are the Z-folded portions of 110, a pocket is defined between the Z folded portions, see again page 23, lines 30-34, paragraph bridging pages 24-25 (Note liquid could also inherently include liquid fecal material or liquid components of fecal material also) and the first paragraph on page 42, and the point bonding is disclosed at page 31, last paragraph, e.g. points or spots of adhesive bonding, and page 25, lines 8-15.

In order to anticipate Applicant's claimed invention, WO '710 must teach each and every claim limitation. WO '710 at least does not disclose or suggest the following limitations (generally stated) of independent Claims 3, 9, and 18.

- A separate flap or pocket sheet attached directly to the body-side liner.
- A flap or pocket sheet attached at peripheral edges to a fluid permeable body-side liner.
- A pocket between the flap or pocket sheet and the body-side liner.

In the Advisory Action mailed 24 March 2005, the Examiner states Applicant's claim language "does not require direct attachment of the flap to the bodyside liner, i.e. "attachment" includes both direct and indirect attachments." The Examiner is incorrect in this statement. Applicant's independent Claims 3, 9, and 18 each recite a separate flap sheet (Claims 3 and 9) or pocket sheet (Claim 18) that is attached directly to a fluid permeable body-side liner of the absorbent article or disposable diaper, respectively.

In rejecting Claims 2-7, 9-14, and 18 as being anticipated by WO '710, the Examiner incorrectly and improperly redefines and/or reclassifies the structure and elements of WO '710. The Examiner's rejection is based upon her incorrect identification of the optional middle-layer "envelope web," which wraps around the absorbent assembly 52 of WO '710 (disclosed at page 35, first full paragraph), as being the "topsheet" of the absorbent article. WO '710 discloses an aptly named bodyside layer 54 over the envelope web, and between the envelope web and the article user.

WO '710 discloses a pleated bodyside layer 54, such as shown in FIG. 11 (Page 24, lines 32-33), but does not disclose or suggest a separate pleated flap or pocket sheet attached to the bodyside layer 54. WO '710 does not teach or suggest Applicant's recited separate pleated flap or pocket sheet directly attached to a body-side liner.

Applicant's recited body-side liner, as the name dictates by its plain and ordinary meaning, as is described in Applicant's Specification and figures, and as is generally known to one skilled in the art (See, for example, Page 1, lines 11-14 of WO '710), is an outer lining that is disposed between the absorbent core and the article user, and which contacts the skin of the article user. Applicant's claimed invention requires a separate pleated sheet structure that is attached to the body-side liner to provide a pocket for collection of fecal matter.

As shown in FIGS. 10-15 of WO '710, the bodyside layer 54 (the top layer of the liquid control assembly 102) includes Z-folded portions between the center panel 104 and the lateral panels 120 (Page 24, line 32 - page 25, line 26). WO '710 discloses the bodyside layer 54 itself is pleated, and does not disclose a separate pleated sheet attached to the bodyside layer 54. As WO '710 does not disclose a separate pocket-forming pleated sheet attached to the bodyside layer, WO '710 does not disclose each and every limitation of Applicant's Claims 3, 9, and 18.

At page 2, paragraph 4, of the Office Action, the Examiner incorrectly claims the “topsheet” of the absorbent article disclosed in WO ‘710 is “the envelope web as disclosed at page 35, first full paragraph,” and not the appropriately named “bodyside layer 54.” The Examiner justifies her classification of the middle-layer envelope web as a topsheet by saying WO ‘710 discloses the bodyside layer 54:

may have apertures, see cited portions of ‘710 supra, through which the envelope web would be exposed, i.e. the web is also bodyside. (final Office Action, page 6, first paragraph).

One skilled in the art reading WO ‘710 would understand the disclosed envelope web to be, as described at page 35 thereof, an optional containment overwrapping for the absorbent assembly 52 that is disposed beneath the bodyside layer 54. WO ‘710 discloses the overwrapping envelope web can be formed from a separate “bodyside wrap layer” and a separate “outside wrap layer,” but the bodyside wrap layer is not disclosed as being a substitute for the bodyside layer 54 (Page 35, first paragraph). The use in WO ‘710 of the terms “bodyside” and “outside” in reference to the wrap layers identify to one skilled in the art the orientation of the wrap layers within the absorbent article structure.

WO ‘710 discloses the absorbent core assembly 52, whether wrapped in the envelope web or not, is positioned beneath the bodyside layer 54, i.e., between the bodyside layer 54 and the backsheet layer 50 (Page 24, third paragraph). The envelope web is not, and would not be considered by one skilled in the art, a body-

side liner as recited in Applicant's independent Claims 3, 9, and 18. Even if the bodyside layer 54 is apertured, and the envelope web was exposed in some small amount, one skilled in the art would not classify the envelope web as Applicant's body-side liner. If apertures in a body-side liner exposed an absorbent core of an absorbent article, one skilled in the art would not also identify the absorbent core as a body-side liner. Similarly, an additional material layer wrapped around the core (and beneath the true body-side liner), would be, for example, a containment sheet or an envelope web, but not a body-side liner, even if made from the same or similar materials used for body-side liners.

Furthermore, Applicant's claimed invention requires the flap or pocket sheet be attached at peripheral edges to a fluid permeable body-side liner. The pleated layer 54 of WO '710 is attached to fluid impermeable lateral panels 120. For this additional reason, WO '710 does not teach each and every limitation of Applicant's claimed invention.

Applicant's claimed invention also recites that a pocket is defined between the flap or pocket sheet and the body-side liner. Referring to FIGS. 12 and 13, the pocket of WO '710 is formed between the liquid control assembly 102 and the absorbent core 52. As discussed above, and contrary to the Examiner's position, wrapping the absorbent core 52 in an envelope web does not provide the claimed invention. One skilled in the art would not consider the envelope web a body-side

liner layer despite possible exposure through one or more small apertures in the actual body-side liner material.

For at least the above reasons, WO '710 does not anticipate Applicant's claimed invention. Applicant respectfully requests reversal of the rejection of Claims 2-7, 9-14, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by WO '710.

B. Claims 2-7, 9-14, and 18 are patentable over Schaar, U.S. Patent 3,951,150, in view of WO 97/48359; Igaue et al., U.S. Patent 5,114,420; and Foreman, U.S. Patent 4,738,677.

In the final Office Action mailed 05 January 2005, the Examiner rejected Claims 2-7, 9-14, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schaar, U.S. Patent 3,951,150, in view of WO 97/48359 (hereinafter "WO '359"); Igaue et al., U.S. Patent 5,114,420; and Foreman, U.S. Patent 4,738,677.

At page 3 of the final Office Action the Examiner states:

In regard to claims 2-3, 6, 9-10, 13, and 18: See Schaar '150 at Figures 5-8, 10, and col. 3, lines 43-48, the elongated material is 28, 32, 36, the backsheet is 28, the top sheet is 32, the absorbent layer is 36, the flap sheet or pocket sheet is 48, the pleats are A, B and D, E, the pocket is defined by A, B, C, D, E, see col. 1, lines 57-60, col. 4, lines 29-35, and 60-64, col. 5, lines 36-58, i.e. the pocket is defined by the pleats between sheet 48 and liner 32, see especially col. 5, lines 44-50, and the point bonds are 58, see also col. 6, line 3.

The Examiner alleges the above portions of the Schaar Patent disclose:

all the claimed structure except for the flap, see 48 in Figures 1 and 2 of '150, is not a separate flap sheet attached by point bonding at an edge disposed toward the back region (final Office Action, page 3, last paragraph).

The Examiner cites WO '359, the Igaue et al. Patent, and the Foreman Patent for disclosing separate flaps are interchangeable with integral flaps (final Office Action, page 4, lines 1-12).

The Schaar Patent discloses an integral flap 48 (i.e., not a separate flap sheet as in Applicant's claimed invention) that is an extension of the box-pleat diaper 26, and folded about lateral fold line 50 (Col. 4, lines 8-22). The flap 48 has peripheral pleats when in a storage position, such as shown in FIGS. 3-5. However, in a use position, such as shown in FIG. 8, the pleats of the end of the diaper have been "completely unfolded" (Col. 5, lines 9-24).

As shown in FIG. 8 of the Schaar Patent, the disclosed diaper does not contain a pleated flap 48 in the use position¹. As there is no pleated flap, i.e., no sheet doubled over on itself, in the use position of the diaper, the Schaar Patent does not disclose pleats that define a pocket for collection of fecal matter, as in Applicant's claimed invention.

None of the secondary references make up for the above described deficiency of the Schaar Patent. The secondary references relied upon by the Examiner also do not disclose or suggest a pleated flap or pocket sheet wherein the pleats define a pocket for collection of fecal matter between the sheet and a body-side

¹ The accepted definition of a "pleat" is a fold made by doubling a material over on itself. See *Webster's New Universal Unabridged Dictionary*, 1996, Barnes & Noble Books.

layer. The waistflap 60 of WO '359 is not disclosed as being pleated. The gatherings in the barrier cuff 262 of the Foreman Patent are not equivalent to Applicant's recited pleats². In the Foreman Patent, the optional gatherings of the barrier cuff 262 (*See* FIGS. 1 and 3; Col. 5, lines 27-37, 61-68) neither define a pocket (Claims 3 and 9) nor form peripheral sides of a pocket (Claim 18) for collection of fecal matter, as in Applicant's claimed invention. The Igaue et al. Patent discloses integral and separately formed side flaps (FIGS. 10-14). Similar to the Foreman Patent, the Igaue et al. Patent discloses gatherings that neither define a pocket (Claims 3 and 9) nor form peripheral sides of a pocket (Claim 18) for collection of fecal matter, as in Applicant's claimed invention.

The combination of the Schaar Patent and the secondary references neither discloses nor suggests Applicant's claimed invention. Combining the cited disclosures to replace the integral flap 48 in the diaper of the Schaar Patent with a separate flap of the secondary references still does not provide or suggest Applicant's claimed pleated flap or pocket sheet that defines a pocket for collection of fecal matter. The Schaar Patent provides a diaper with pleated layers to allow for an expandable waistline (Abstract). As the waistline is expanded, the pleats are "completely unfolded" (FIG. 8; Col. 5, lines 9-18). Without pleats in the expanded

²The Examiner acknowledged the difference between the Foreman Patent and Applicant's claimed invention abandoning by not continuing the anticipation rejections over the Foreman Patent made in the Office Actions dated 14 September 2001, 19 April 2002, and 10 October 2002.

use position, the Schaar Patent, alone or in combination with the secondary references, does not disclose or suggest pleats that define a pocket for collection of fecal matter, as in Applicant's claimed invention, regardless of whether the flap 48 is integral or separate.

Furthermore, Applicant disagrees that the "interchangeability" of integral and separate nonpleated waist flaps disclosed in the secondary references could be or would have been considered applicable to the Schaar Patent by one skilled in the art.

The Schaar Patent discloses the flap 48 is folded over to cover and promote adhesion of the elastic loop 55 (Col. 4, line 50-66). Prior to product use, the flap 48, being integral to the box-pleat diaper 26, includes each of the multiple pleats, thereby matching the pleated front surface 34 and allowing for the lateral extension shown in Fig. 6. The Schaar Patent does not disclose or suggest a separate sheet for flap 48, particularly as any separate flap sheet would require the extensive matching pleating of the box-pleat diaper 26 and/or extensive and costly additional manufacturing steps. Also, the seam of the attached pleated sheet along the back waist line of the diaper of the Schaar Patent could interfere with the intended lateral expandability (shown in FIGS. 6-8) of the diaper. One skilled in the art would find no suggestion or motivation to apply a separate sheet as the flap 48 of the Schaar Patent for at least these reasons.

Neither the Schaar Patent, WO '359, the Foreman Patent, nor the Igaue et al. Patent, alone or in any combination, discloses or suggests Applicant's pleated flap or pocket sheet, whereby the pleats define a pocket for the collection of fecal matter. Also, these references do not disclose or suggest the interchangeability of a separate pleated sheet for an integral pleated sheet. Therefore, these references, either alone or in combination, do not provide or suggest Applicant's claimed invention. One skilled in the art would not have recognized that the folded over, integral flap 48 of the Schaar Patent would have been interchangeable with a separate pleated sheet, particularly due to the excessive and more complicated manufacturing steps in providing the pleated diaper and interference with the intended lateral expansion.

For at least the above reasons, Applicant's claimed invention would not have been obvious over the disclosure of the Schaar patent, WO '359, the Igaue et al. Patent, and/or the Foreman Patent. Applicant respectfully requests reversal of the rejection of Claims 2-7, 9-14, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

C. Claims 15-17 are patentable over WO 97/39710 in view of Igaue et al., U.S. Patent 5,114,420.

In the final Office Action mailed 05 January 2005, the Examiner rejected Claims 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 97/39710 in view of Igaue et al., U.S. Patent 5,114,420.

Applicant's above remarks regarding WO '710 are also applicable to this rejection. As discussed above, WO '710 does not disclose or suggest a pleated

flap sheet directly attached to the body-side liner, as in Applicant's invention of independent Claim 15. As also discussed above, the Igaue et al. Patent teaches a gathered material for side or leg flaps, but does not disclose or suggest forming pleats that define peripheral sides of a pocket between the flap sheet and a body-side liner, as in Applicant's Claim 15. Therefore, the combination of WO '710 and the Igaue et al. Patent does not provide Applicant's claimed invention, and does not render Applicant's claimed invention unpatentable.

Applicant respectfully requests reversal of the rejection of Claims 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

VIII. CONCLUSION

For the forgoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request the Board to reverse the rejection of: (A) Claims 2-7, 9-14, and 18 as being anticipated by WO 97/39710; (B) Claims 2-7, 9-14, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schaar, U.S. Patent 3,951,150, in view of WO 97/48359, Igaue et al., U.S. Patent 5,114,420, and Foreman, U.S. Patent 4,738,677; and (C) Claims 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 97/39710 in view of Igaue et al., U.S. Patent 5,114,420.

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A check for the fee required by 37 CFR § 41.37(a)(2) and 37 CFR § 41.20(b)(2), in the amount of \$500.00, is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Swanson', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mark D. Swanson
Reg. No. 48,498

Pauley Petersen & Erickson
2800 West Higgins Road
Suite 365
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60195
(847) 490-1400
FAX (847) 490-1403

CLAIMS APPENDIX

2. The article in accordance with Claim 3, wherein a width of said pocket traverses substantially an entire width of said back region.

3. An absorbent article comprising:
an elongated material having two enlarged end portions and a narrowed portion intermediate said two enlarged end portions, one of said two enlarged end portions corresponding to a back region of said absorbent article; and

said elongated material comprising a fluid impermeable backsheet, a fluid permeable body-side liner attached to one side of said fluid impermeable backsheet, and a separate flap sheet attached directly to said fluid permeable body-side liner by point bonding at opposed peripheral edges of the flap sheet and at an edge of the flap sheet disposed toward the back region of said absorbent article, said flap sheet including two opposed pleats and being expandable in a direction away from said fluid impermeable backsheet proximate said back region of said absorbent article, whereby the pleats define a pocket between the flap sheet and the body-side liner for collection of fecal matter;

wherein the two opposed pleats are disposed substantially parallel to a longitudinal centerline of said elongated material.

4. The absorbent article in accordance with Claim 3, wherein at least one of said flap sheet, said fluid impermeable backsheet and said fluid permeable body-side liner comprises a nonwoven material.

5. The absorbent article in accordance with Claim 4, wherein said nonwoven material is selected from the group consisting of spunbond, meltblown, bonded carded web and combinations thereof.

6. The absorbent article in accordance with Claim 3, wherein said fluid permeable body-side liner is a multi-layer material comprising an absorbent layer and a fluid permeable top sheet, said absorbent layer being disposed between said fluid impermeable backsheet and said fluid permeable top sheet.

7. The absorbent article in accordance with Claim 3, wherein said flap sheet is fluid impermeable.

9. A disposable diaper comprising:
a fluid impermeable outer cover, a fluid permeable body-side liner attached to said fluid impermeable outer cover and a separate flap sheet attached directly to said fluid permeable body-side liner by point bonding at opposed peripheral

edges of the flap sheet and at an edge of the flap sheet disposed toward a back region of said absorbent article, said flap sheet including two opposed discrete pleats and expandable in a direction away from said fluid impermeable outer cover whereby a pocket is defined between the discrete pleats and formed inside said disposable diaper between the flap sheet and the body-side liner and proximate the back region of said disposable diaper;

wherein the discrete pleats are substantially parallel to a longitudinal centerline of said diaper.

10. The disposable diaper in accordance with Claim 9, wherein said pocket substantially traverses an entire width of said back region of said disposable diaper.

11. The disposable diaper in accordance with Claim 9, wherein said flap sheet comprises a nonwoven web.

12. The disposable diaper in accordance with Claim 11, wherein said nonwoven web is selected from the group consisting of spunbond, meltblown, bonded carded web and combinations thereof.

13. The disposable diaper in accordance with Claim 9, wherein said fluid permeable body-side liner is a multi-layer material comprising an absorbent layer and a fluid permeable top sheet, said absorbent layer being disposed between said fluid impermeable outer cover and said fluid permeable top sheet.

14. The disposable diaper in accordance with Claim 9, wherein said flap sheet is fluid impermeable.

15. A method for producing a disposable absorbent article comprising the steps of:

forming a substantially rectangular multi-layer material comprising a fluid impermeable backsheet, a fluid permeable body-side liner attached to one side of said fluid impermeable backsheet, and a flap sheet attached directly to said fluid permeable body-side liner whereby said body-side liner is disposed between said fluid impermeable backsheet and said flap sheet;

removing a portion of said material from opposed longitudinal edges of said substantially rectangular multi-layer material, producing two enlarged end portions and a narrowed portion intermediate said two enlarged end portions, one of said enlarged end portions corresponding to a back region of said disposable absorbent article; and

forming at least two discrete longitudinal pleats along opposed sides of said flap sheet, the longitudinal pleats defining peripheral sides of a pocket between said flap sheet and said body-side liner, wherein said flap sheet is proximate said back region of said disposable absorbent article.

16. The method in accordance with Claim 15, wherein at least one layer of said multi-layer material comprises a nonwoven material.

17. The method in accordance with Claim 16, wherein said nonwoven material is selected from the group consisting of spunbond, meltblown, bonded carded web and combinations thereof.

18. An absorbent article comprising:
an elongated material having two enlarged end portions and a narrowed portion intermediate the two enlarged end portions, one of the two enlarged end portions corresponding to a back region of the absorbent article; and

the elongated material comprising a fluid impermeable backsheet, a fluid permeable body-side liner attached to one side of the fluid impermeable backsheet, and a separate pocket sheet having opposed peripheral edges, the opposed peripheral edges attached directly to the fluid permeable body-side liner, and at least

two opposed pleats in the pocket sheet along opposite sides of the pocket sheet and disposed substantially parallel to a longitudinal centerline of the elongated material, whereby the pocket sheet is expandable in a direction away from the fluid impermeable backsheet and the pleats of the pocket sheet define peripheral sides, respectively, of a pocket between the pocket sheet and the body-side liner for collection of fecal matter.

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EVIDENCE APPENDIX

NONE

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RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

NONE